



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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## Sudan-U.S. Relations

- Most dailies reported President Bush's decision to approve additional sanctions against Sudan. The Executive Order signed on Friday freezes the assets of those deemed complicit in the atrocities in Darfur and blocks their entry into the United States. (*VOA News, Al-Sudani et al*)
- The Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs criticized President Bush's decision to sign legislation stiffening sanctions against Sudan, arguing that the timing of the sanctions was "inappropriate and unacceptable." (*Al-Rai Al-Aam, Al-Sudani et al*)
- Local dailies highlighted the meeting of U.S. Special Envoy Andrew Natsios with Sudanese Foreign Minister Lam Akol, President's Senior Assistant Minni Minnawi, and Cabinet Affairs Minister Deng Alor. MFA spokesman Ali Al-Basier stated that Sudan is willing to develop good relations with the U.S. based on mutual understanding. FM Akol stated that Natsios came with an open heart and mind and to achieve progress. (*Al-Sahafa, Al-Khartoum et al*)
- The pro-government Arabic daily *Al-Intibaha* reported that some unnamed high-level official sources stated that the GOS will not allow Natsios to travel to the Darfur region.

## Darfur

- SPLM spokesman Musa Al-Gamiel denies SPLM involvement in recent clashes in Al-Fashir, North Darfur. Al-Gamiel accused the government of North Darfur of supporting the Janjaweed and being incapable of protecting civilians. (*Al-Adwa, Reuters*)

## East Sudan

- On Saturday in Asmara, the Sudanese government signed a peace deal with rebel movements in the eastern part of Sudan, an agreement intended to end 10 years of fighting. (*Al-Aayam, NY Times, et al*)

## Commentaries

- Leading commentaries in independent dailies focused on the visit of U.S. Envoy Natsios, arguing that the visit would be successful if it avoided accusations and focused on U.S.-Sudan relations as a key to solve the Darfur issue. (*Al-Sahafa, The Citizen*)

## Miscellaneous

- Minister of Justice denies that his ministry is delaying the approval of South Sudan States constitutions, arguing that these states refused to respond to his comments on their draft constitutions. (*Al-Sahafa*)

## Quote of the Day

"The U.S. stance towards Sudan is extreme and unacceptable." -- Government of Sudan

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